

Atty Dkt. No.: STAN-110CON
USSN: 09/837,446

REMARKS

Formal Matters

Claims 23-38 are pending.

Restriction Requirement

In the above referenced office communication, the Examiner imposed a supplemental restriction requirement, requiring the election of the one of the following claim groups:

Group I, i.e., Claims 23-38, drawn to a method involving an antibody to CCR4

Group II, i.e., Claims 23-31 and 33-38, drawn to a method involving an antibody to TARC

Group III, i.e., Claims 23-25, 27-31 and 33-38, drawn to a method involving an antibody to MDC

Group IV, i.e., Claims 23-28 and 33-38, drawn to a method involving a peptide or peptidomimetic

Group V, i.e., Claims 23-28 and 33-38, drawn to a method involving a small organic molecule

Group VI, i.e., Claims 23-31 and 33-38, drawn to a method involving a soluble T cell receptor.

The Applicants hereby elect Group I, with traverse, and note that the Office Action states that upon allowance of the linking claim, claim 23, the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions will be withdrawn.

The Applicants respectfully urge the Examiner to rejoin the claims for the following reasons.

The MPEP allows an Examiner to examine otherwise patentably distinct sets of claims if to do so would not impose an undue burden on the Examiner. M.P.E.P. § 8.03 states that:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the examination of the claimed subject matter can be made without serious burden, and, as such, all the claims should be examined without restriction.

The Applicants reserve the right to petition the Commissioner to rejoin the above claims.

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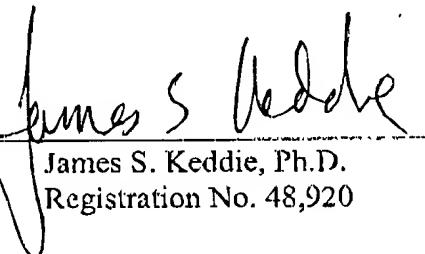
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a Telephone Conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number STAN-110CON.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: April 29, 2003

By: 
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